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**CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

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**THE HONORABLE DAVID Y. IGE, CHAIR**  
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS**  
**Twenty-Seventh State Legislature**  
**Regular Session of 2014**  
**State of Hawai'i**

February 28, 2014

**RE: S.B. 2309, S.D. 1; RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY.**

Chair Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani and members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means, the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu submits the following comments on Senate Bill 2309, Senate Draft 1.

S.B. 2309, S.D. 1, makes an appropriation to the Department of Public Safety for the establishment and implementation of a re-entry facility for criminal offenders, which will include residential and day reporting programs.

While the Department supports the funding of re-entry programs for offenders transitioning back into society, we strongly believe that some of the \$100 million appropriated in this bill should be used for the building and operation of a new two-thousand to three-thousand bed correctional facility designed to house medium-security inmates. This would help to keep local offenders at facilities in-state, closer to family, friends, and programs that are sensitive to the needs those who grew up in Hawai'i.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

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**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2309 on Feb 28, 2014 10:00AM  
**Date:** Thursday, February 27, 2014 4:04:25 AM

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**SB2309**

Submitted on: 2/27/2014

Testimony for WAM on Feb 28, 2014 10:00AM in Conference Room 211

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ellen Awai	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support SB2309 to decrease the recidivism of criminal offenders. This bill will support the offenders in reintegrating back to their community and in the long run lower the costs to our society as a whole. Many individuals after being institutionalized in our prisons and hospitals for so long may find it easier for them to just return to the institution. But with support as provided in SB2309, offenders can regain their confidence and rebuild a better life for themselves. Thank you.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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